

New Arguments or New Evidence In Support of Patentability

The Notice of Allowability mailed on October 4, 2006 states that it is "responsive to amendment dated 9/21/06." However, the Notice of Allowability indicates that only claims 35-56 were allowed and provides no indication of the status of claims 67-90, which were added as new claims in the Amendment dated September 21, 2006 to which the Notice of Allowability states it is responsive. Because the Office has not recognized claims 67-90, Applicant believes that the Office has not allowed them.

Applicant submits that claims 67 and 68 are patentable because claims 67 and 68 depend from allowed claims 49 and 50, respectively. Applicant also submits that claims 59-90 are patentable because independent claims 69 and 80 include patentably distinct features over the prior art of record. Independent claim 69 is patentable because none of the prior art of record, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest "a flange positioned at the proximal end of the stem and outside of the syringe body, the flange extending radially outwardly from the stem, the flange having a thread facing outwardly, the thread sized to engage the threaded shaft," as recited in claim 69. Independent claim 80 is patentable because none of the prior art of record, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest "a flange positioned at the proximal end of the stem and outside of the syringe body, the flange comprising radially outward facing edges and a threaded portion adjacent the edges, the threaded portion sized to engage the threaded shaft" as recited in claim 80. Applicant, therefore, respectfully submits that claims 67-90 are in condition for allowance.

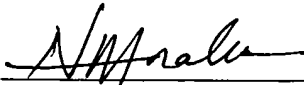
Unentered Amendment to the Claims

Because the Notice of Allowability provides no indication whatsoever that claims 67-90 were either allowed, rejected, or objected to, Applicant believes that the Amendment dated September 21, 2006 is, in effect, partially unentered in respect of claims 67-90. Therefore, Applicant submits that the Amendment dated September 21, 2006 qualifies as a submission

required under § 1.114(c) to be submitted with the accompanying RCE. The RCE is being filed to have the Amendment dated September 21, 2006 completely entered and to have claims 67-90 considered.

Respectfully submitted,

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